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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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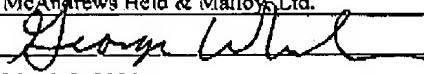
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number 10/643,330
		Filing Date August 19, 2003
		First Named Inventor Russell P. VandenBiesen
		Group Art Unit 1755
		Examiner Name Unassigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 27		Attorney Docket Number 15341US02

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

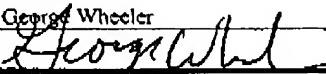
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> PTO 1449/08A with references <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) ( sheets) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Preliminary Amendment Before First Action and Second Declaration of Dr. Robert W. Froberg Under 37 CFR 1.132 and Attachment A.  Remarks		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual Name	McAndrews Held & Malloy, Ltd.		
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Date	March 3, 2004		

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Name (Print/type)	George Wheeler	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,766
Signature		Date	March 3, 2004

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 15341US02

MAR 03 2004

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*In the Application of:*

VandenBiesen et al.

U.S. Serial No.: 10/643,330

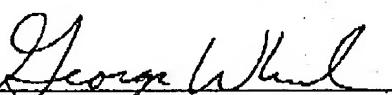
Confirmation No.: 3981

Filed: August 19, 2003

For: METHOD OF MAKING SYNTHETIC  
GEMS COMPRISING ELEMENTS  
RECOVERED FROM REMAINS OF A  
SPECIES OF THE KINGDOM  
ANIMALIA

*Examiner:* Unassigned*Group Art Unit:* 1755CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

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By:   
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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE FIRST ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examining the present application, please amend it as follows.

- Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.